FROM THE CREATOR OF MODEL
IV
ARCANA
SO-YOUNG LEE

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THIS...
...IS FOR YOU. I WAS PICKING FRUIT FOR MONG AND THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE ONE.
BUT NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU EAT ANYTHING...
YULAN, TAKE IT. PLEASE. DON'T MAKE ME FEEL STUPID. I KNOW IT'S PITIFUL, BUT THIS WAS THE BEST PEACE OFFERING I COULD FIND.
HUHU~
THANK YOU

HE... HE'S EATING IT.
AH...
YULAN'S EATING IT!!
WAS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?
UH NO, NOPE
두리
두리
WELL THEN YOU'D BETTER GET SOME REST WE HAVE TO GET GOING VERY EARLY TOMORROW
GOT IT!
YULAN LIKED MY PRESENT!
THANK YOU, YULAN
THANK YOU!!
I KNOW HOW STUBBORN AND OBNOXIOUS I CAN BE!
I ALSO KNOW THAT UNDERNEATH THAT COLD EXTERIOR, YOU ARE CARING AND CONSIDERATE. THANK YOU

HUH?
HUH?
WHY DID YOU EAT WHEN YOU KNEW IT WOULD MAKE YOU ILL?
YOU KNOW YOUR BODY CAN'T TOLERATE FOOD, YULAN...

I HOPE...THAT YOU'LL ALWAYS BE AS CONSIDERATE OF HER.
SO IT WAS YOU THAT I SENSED THIS AFTERNOON, ZEYER--I KNEW YOU'D RETURN SOONER OR LATER
I SUPPOSE THIS MEANS THAT LILITH WAS THE ONE WHO MESMERIZED THEM
SINCE SHE'S ALWAYS WITH YOU

I DON'T WANT INEZ TO BE HURT.
BUT AS LONG AS YOU REMAIN BY HER SIDE, I'LL NEVER BE FREE OF THAT WORRY.
PLEASE, YULAN, I BEG OF YOU. BE MORE CONSIDERATE OF HER.
EVERY TIME A DECISION HAS TO BE MADE, SHE SUFFERS, KNOWING THAT YOU DETEST HER.
THAT, MIXED WITH HER LOVE FOR YOU, AND HER SENSE OF INDEBTEDNESS...

QUIET!
THE MOMENT OF DECISION IS ALWAYS AGONIZING... IT'S TRUE
BUT THERE WAS NEVER A SECOND'S HESITATION
IT WILL BE THE SAME THIS TIME!
WHOSE OPINION IS THAT, YULAN? HERS...OR YOURS?
IT'S WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE. WHAT ARE YOU SO AFRAID OF?
HOW I ENVY YOU FOR BEING THE OBJECT OF HER LOVE!

I'VE RESIGNED MYSELF TO THE TRUTH OF THE SIMPLE FACT THAT YOU MET HER FIRST...
GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!
I WON'T REPEAT THAT MISTAKE, NOT THIS TIME
BECAUSE THAT WAS MY PROMISE TO HER

THOSE ROCKS HAVE BEEN CARVED BY SOMEONE
IS THAT WHAT YOU CALLED THE FIRST GATE TO THE LAND OF THE ELVES?
YES. WE'LL HAVE TO PASS THROUGH THREE PORTALS IN ALL TO GET TO THE ELFIN REALM
THREE PORTALS. I ALWAYS KNEW THAT THE ELVES WERE AN EXCLUSIONARY RACE
WELL, I GUESS ONE CAN'T BLAME THEM FOR WANTING TO KEEP THEIR BLOODLINE PURE IN SUCH A MIXED-UP WORLD

EH?

YULAN! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
WHAT? WE HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NIGHT-FALL?
WHY? WHAT'S THE REASON?

WHY ELSE? THE ELVES WON'T EXACTLY BE WELCOMING US WITH OPEN ARMS.
UNINVITED GUESTS LIKE US HAVE TO SNEAK IN UNDER THE CLOAK OF NIGHT.
IS THAT THE REASON, YULAN?

GREAT! I FOUND IT! I KNEW IT'D BE HERE SOMEWHERE
HOW COULD WATER BE SO HOT?
AND IT'S FLOWING OUT FROM BETWEEN THE ROCKS!!
IT'S A HOT SPRING, THAT'S WHY.
HOT... SPRING?
YOU MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT A HOT SPRING IS?
WHOA...
IT'S STEAMING HOT.
UMM...NO. I GUESS I DON'T
I SUPPOSE THERE ARE PLACES THAT DON'T HAVE HOT SPRINGS
SO THIS WILL BE YOUR FIRST HOT SPRING EXPERIENCE THEN
YOU'VE BEEN THESE BEFORE?
THERE WAS A VOLCANO NEAR WHERE I USED TO LIVE AS A RESULT THERE WERE HOT SPRINGS ALL OVER THE PLACE
VOLCANO?
HA HA.. YOU HAVE A LOT TO LEARN, MY LITTLE FRIEND

BUT... WHY ARE YOU TAKING OFF
..YOUR CLOTHES!!
WHAT A STUPID QUESTION! CAN'T TAKE A BA WITH MY CLOTHE ON. CAN I?
I'M NOT WASTING THIS RARE CHANCE FOR COMPLETE COMFORT AND RELAXATION
CLIMB IN! KYU THE WARM WATER'LL CHASE AWAY YOUR WORRIES
NOOOO!!
I HATE TAKING BATHS!!
HUH...
HUH..
HUH
MY HEART'S STILL POUNDING FROM THE SHOCK
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME...

...I'VE EVER SEEN A MAN NAKED!
THUMP
THUMP
IT SENT SUCH A SHIVER DOWN MY SPINE
WHAT ALL I DID WAS LOOK! THERE WAS NO TOUCHING... NO CARESS... NO KISS
C'MON! THE WATER'S FINE!
STILL, I FELT SO EMBARRASSED. I COULD FEEL THE BLOOD RUSHING TO MY FACE...
WHY WAS THAT WHEN I WASN'T THE ONE WHO WAS NAKED??
COULD IT BE THAT THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME? WHY DO I FEEL SO UNCOMFORTABLE IN KUKETTE'S PRESENCE?
DID HE CAST SOME KIND OF SPELL ON ME?
A SPELL TO MAKE ME ALL EMBARRASSED?
MONG!
I CAN'T STAND IT ANYMORE
I HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME!

I'LL GO ASK YULAN FOR A FAVOR, JUST THIS ONCE!
AND IF HE HAS THE SAME EFFECT ON ME..
THEN IT MUST BE JUST THE WAY THINGS ARE!

I CAN'T DO IT

HOW COULD ANYONE LOOK INTO THOSE COLD EYES AND HAVE THE NERVE TO ASK ANY-THING?

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO ME?
UM... NO, NOT REALLY..

DO I REALLY THINK I COULD CONFIDE IN HIM?
I WISH I COULD TALK TO GRANDPA RIGHT NOW

SO, AM I JUST GOING TO GIVE UP?
UMM.. YULAN

NO, I DON'T WANT TO!
WOULD YOU...
...TOUCH MY CHEEK?
KEEP YOUR EYES CLOSED, INEZ. DON'T LOOK INTO HIS EYES
COME ON, YULAN! IS IT SO IMPOSSIBLE TO LIFT YOUR ARM?

...AND WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
IT'S NEO, LORD KYRETTE.
I'LL BE HOVERING AT YOUR BECK AND CALL.
GOOD. I'LL BE WATCHING TO SEE IF YOU'RE ANY GOOD.

BUT FIRST, WILL YOU CALL OFF YOUR FRIEND?
MY LORD?
SHHH
HE'S BEEN TICKLING MY LEGS FOR A WHILE
OH, TOTO?
WHEN DID YOU SLIP OUT?!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, LORD KYRETTE. HE LOVES HOT SPRINGS
HOW COULD THEY HAVE SENT ME SUCH AN AMATEUR?

STRANGE I'M THE ONE WHO TOOK A BATH BUT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S RED IN THE FACE
HEY KIP, I'M TALKING TO YOU
I'LL GET BACK AT YOU FOR THIS ONE DAY
WHAT HOW?
JUST YOU WAIT, YULAN!
IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD TO BE SORRY THEN!
WOULD IT HAVE KILLED YOU TO LIFT THAT HAND OF YOURS AND BRUSH MY CHEEK JUST ONCE?
OH, SOMEDAY YOU'LL PAY!
VENGEANCE PENDING

YOU MUST TRY TO UNDERSTAND YULAN
THE FEELINGS OF AN ADOLESCENT GIRL MUST BE EXCEEDINGLY CONFUSING TO THE ONE
AFTER ALL THE ONE HAD CONTACT WITH ONLY AN OLD WIZARD ALL THESE YEARS AND NO CHANCE TO INTERACT WITH THE OTHER SEX
IT SEEMS THAT THE MAN IN YOUR COMPANY HAS STIMULATED SOMETHING IN INEZ

IN... INCREDIBLE!
THIS WAS ALL DRY LAND JUST HOURS AGO!
NOW THE ENTIRE PLAZA IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING...
...IS COMPLETELY UNDERWATER!!

WHERE DID ALL THIS WATER COME FROM?!
THIS IS THE FIRST PORTAL. IT'S CALLED THE MOONSHADOW
MOONSHADOW?
YES. THE WATER PASSAGE ONLY APPEARS ON NIGHTS LIKE THIS WHEN THE MOON IS FULL
WATER PASSAGE? DOES THAT MEAN WE'LL BE RIDING IN A BOAT?
OR MAYBE THE WATER WILL PART TO REVEAL SOME HIDDEN ROAD UNDERNEATH
WE MUST WAIT
WAIT?
UNTIL MOONLIGHT SHINING ON THE PALACE
IS REFLECTED ONTO THE SURFACE OF THE WATER
ONLY THEN WILL OUT PATHWAY BE REVEALED

WE'LL BE MAKING OUR WAY NOT THROUGH THAT BUILDING ACROSS THE WATER, BUT THROUGH IT'S REFLECTION ON THE SURFACE OF THE LAKE
...BUT IT'S REFLECTION?
YOU MEAN THAT THE REAL PORTAL IS NOT THE PHYSICAL BUILDING...
AMAZING. NOW I SEE WHY WE HAD TO WAIT UNTIL MOONRISE
SO WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?
MY DIVING SKILLS ARE KIND OF RUSTY
Splash
YULAN?

CHOP
THE GROUND... THE GROUND IS SHAKING!
CHOP
CHOP
—OH, GOD—

YULAN!!
COME ALONG
SO, DIVING IT IS
DON'T BE AFRAID INEZ
YULAN?
YU-LAN?!
SPLASH
YULAN'S GONE!

BUT I CAN'T SWIM!
MONG!
FINE LET'S GO
HOLD ON TIGHT, MONG!
TOTO WE HAVE TO SLIP IN BEFORE THE PORTAL DISAPPEARS YOU CAN DO IT... RIGHT?

IS TERROR MAKING ME IMAGINE THIS WONDERFUL VISION?
I SEE YULAN'S ARMS...
...OPEN AND READY TO RECEIVE ME...
HEY, KID...

THE REALITY IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM MY ILLUSION
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO LIE THERE WITH YOUR FACE IN THE WATER?
GET UP BEFORE YOU DROWN, KID...
MOAN!
WHERE ARE WE?
DID WE MAKE IT THROUGH?
YULAN? WHAT ABOUT YULAN?
HE'S TRYING TO CALM DOWN THE HORSES IT MUST HAVE BEEN A BIG SHOCK TO THEM TOO
BUT THEY DIDN'T RESIST, SURPRISINGLY
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE THAT HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T GET WET?
OH WELL I GUESS THE IMPORTANT THING IS WE GOT THROUGH THE FIRST PORTAL SAFELY

SO THIS IS THE LAND OF THE ELVES...
THE PLACE HAS A VERY DIFFERENT FEEL.
THERE'S A SENSE OF HISTORY, AN ANCIENT PRESENCE THAT STRETCHES BACK THROUGH TIME.
BUT WHY...

...DOES IT FEEL LIKE I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE?

AS IF I'VE COME BACK TO A BELOVED HOME
WAIT! THAT THOUGHT JUST NOW WASN'T MINE. A BELOVED HOME?
A BELOVED...?
WOW THIS IS SO PRETTY
ELFIN FRUIT'S REALLY ARE DIFFERENT EVEN THEIR SCENT IS SO MUCH MORE FRAGRANT
MONG, DO YOU THINK THIS COULD BE FRUIT THAT NEVER ROTS?

HERE...
THIS FRUIT IS SO FRAGRANT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY ONE.
HEE HEE HEE...
WON'T YOU TAKE IT? IT'S TASTIER THAN THE ONE BEFORE...
COME ON THIS IS PRETTY AND MARR
MONG YULAN ATE THE FRUIT TOO!
HE TASTED THE ONE THAT I GAVE HIM NOT ONCE BUT TWICE!
I KNOW I'M BEING SILLY BUT IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY
YULAN?
EH?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER SEEN YULAN SLEEP. DOES HE GO TO BED ONLY AFTER I'VE DOZED OFF?
WHERE DID HE GO?

I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE IT TOO
MONG AND I ENJOYED IT SO MUCH...
OBVIOUSLY, IT DOESN'T AGREE WITH YOU I'M SORRY FOR INSISTING YOU EAT IT
I'M REALLY SORRY, YULAN..!
IT JUST MADE ME SO HAPPY THAT YOU TOOK SOMETHING I OFFERED, THAT'S ALL
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
YULAN..?
ARE YOU SICK BECAUSE OF THE FRUIT I GAVE YOU?

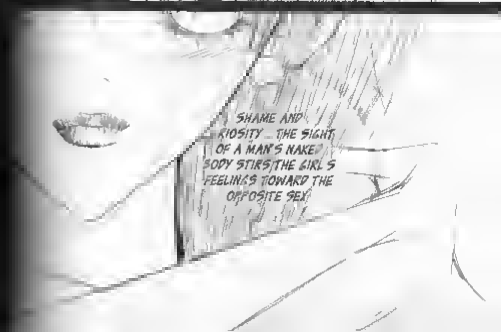
IT'S JUST THAT THE FRUIT DIDN'T AGREE WITH HIM.
SO WHY DO I FEEL...
LIKE CRYING?
YULAN!!

YULAN!
YULAN!!
PLEASE!
PLEASE!
YULAN, HELP ME!!
OH, YULAN!
I'M SO DUMB, SLIPPING LIKE THAT
HURRY AND HELP ME UP. I DON'T THINK MY ARMS WILL LAST MUCH LONGER

UMM...YOU KNOW...I CAN'T HOLD ON MUCH LONGER...
YOU CAN LECTURE ME ABOUT MY CARELESSNESS ALL YOU WANT
BUT FIRST HELP ME UP
I...CAN'T... HOLD ON..

THE PROPHECY BEGINS

THE MAN WAS TOLD TO IMMERSE HIMSELF IN THE HOT WATERS.



YULAN, WILL YOU TOUCH MY CHEEK?
OUT OF CURIOSITY, THE GIRL ENACTS THE SECOND SIGN.
AND FINALLY...

KOP
KOP
KRAK
ARE YOU SICK BECAUSE OF THE FRUIT I GAVE YOU?
I'M REALLY SORRY, YULAN...!
UP

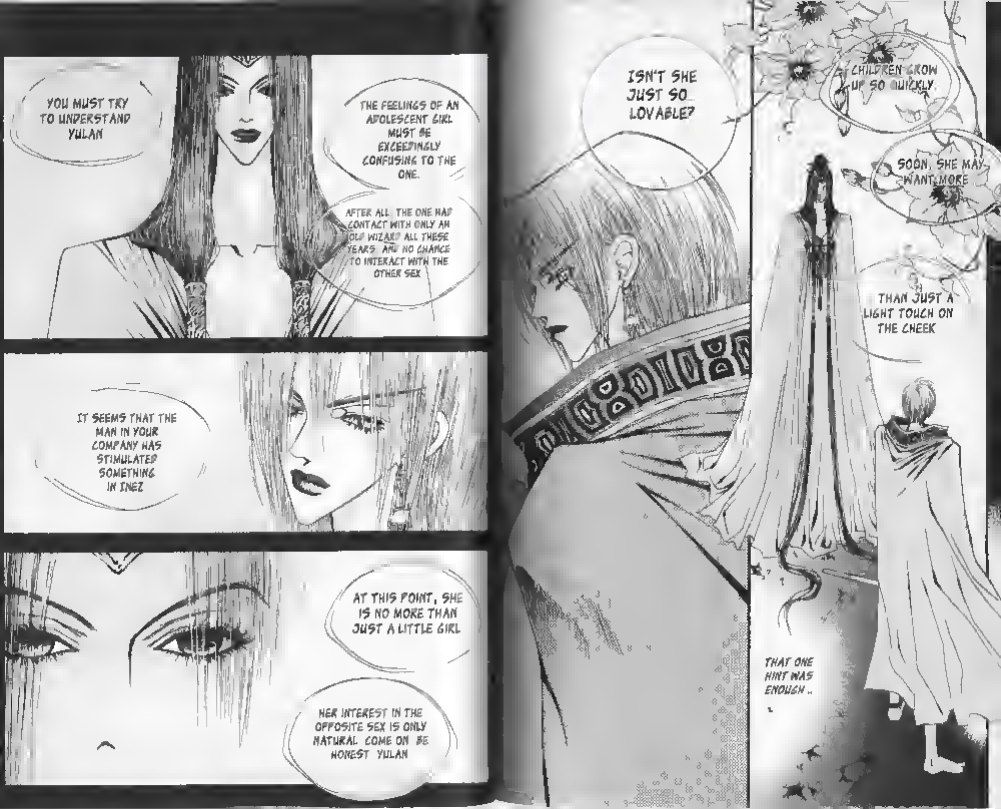
YULAN!
YULAN...
YULAN
WITH THIS, THE GIRL WILL WAKE UP FROM THE PROPHETIC DREAM. BUT THE FINAL SCENE WILL REMAIN ETCHED IN HER MIND...
...TURNED AWAY!
THE KID WENT LOOKING FOR YOU. DIDN'T YOU SEE HER?
HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED TO INEZ?

WITH THE MAN'S FINAL QUESTION THE PUPPET PLAY COMES TO AN END
YULAN.
SSSH
HE WILL AWAKEN, BUT WITH THE TRAGIC FINALE ENGRAVED ON HIS MEMORY TOO.
MUCH TOO LATE, I WILL REALIZE ..
INEZ ..

IZUNA.
...WHAT HE HAS DONE.

SO THE ENTIRE PROPHETIC DREAM WAS STAGED...TO DISCREDIT YULAN?
YES. YULAN WAS THE FOCUS OF THIS LITTLE PLOT
UNLIKE INEZ AND KYRETTE. YULAN DOESN'T DREAM SO I HAD TO RESORT TO A DIFFERENT MEANS
IN SHORT, A MEANS FOR PUTTING YULAN UNDER A SPELL

IN ORDER TO DISRUPT HIS SELF-CONTROL I HAD TO EXPLOIT A FLAW IN HIS DEFENSES...
...INEZ...
YES. ZEPER, INEZ THE ONE YOU CALL YOUR MISTRESS
SHE IS YULAN'S WEAKNESS ..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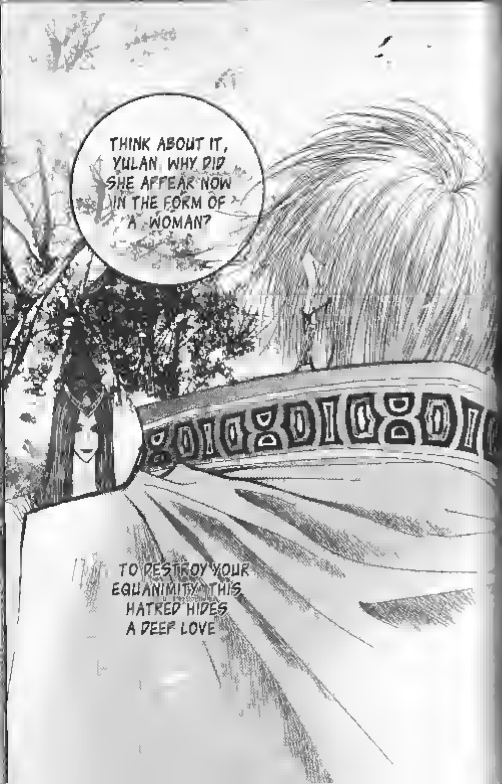
THE FEELINGS OF AN ADOLESCENT GIRL MUST BE EXCEEDINGLY CONFUSING TO THE ONE.
AFTER ALL, THE ONE HAD CONTACT WITH ONLY AN OLD WIZARD FOR ALL THESE YEARS, AND NO CHANCE TO INTERACT WITH THE OTHER SEX
IT SEEMS THAT THE MAN IN YOUR COMPANY HAS STIMULATED SOMETHING IN INEZ
AT THIS POINT, SHE IS NO MORE THAN JUST A LITTLE GIRL
HER INTEREST IN THE OFFOSITE SEX IS ONLY NATURAL. COME ON, BE HONEST YULAN
ISN'T SHE JUST SO LOVABLE?
CHILDREN GROW UP SO QUICKLY
SOON, SHE MAY WANT MORE
THAN JUST A LIGHT TOUCH ON THE CHEEK
THAT ONE HINT WAS ENOUGH ..


THINK ABOUT IT, YULAN. WHY DID SHE APPEAR NOW IN THE FORM OF A WOMAN?
TO DESTROY YOUR EQUANIMITY. THIS HATRED HIDES A DEEP LOVE

LET ME OUT!
LILITH, LET ME OUT!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HER, ZEYER. SHE IS SAFE.
ALL THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD
I HAVE TO FIND INEZ!
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH IT WASN'T EASY TO PUT HER UNDER A SPELL EITHER BUT SHE TOO HAD A WEAKNESS...
WILL YOU ALLOW ME TO KILL ZEYER?

AREN'T YOU CURIOUS TO KNOW HOW SHE REPLIED TO THAT QUESTION?
FOR THE TIME BEING YOU'LL HAVE TO BE SATISFIED WITH KNOWING WHAT KIND OF SPELL I CAST ON YULAN
IF YOU'RE NICE TO YOUR BIG SISTER... I JUST MIGHT TELL YOU
THE SPELL BEGAN WITH THE SECOND OFFERING OF FRUIT
YOU'LL AWAKEN WHEN KYRETTE ASKS YOU THE SECOND QUESTION. EVERYTHING THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE WILL THEN BE ERASED FROM YOUR MEMORY.

EXCEPT FOR ONE IMAGE...

THEY WON'T SERVE YOUR MANIPULATIVE PLAN!
WHEN THEY REALIZE THAT THIS NIGHTMARE FINALLY CAME FROM THEIR OWN MINDS BUT WAS INJECTED FROM OUTSIDE, THEY'LL JUST THINK THEY WERE SENT A BAD DREAM!
THEY'LL REALIZE THAT IT WAS ALL A MISUNDERSTANDING. AND THE CONFLICT WILL BE RESOLVED!

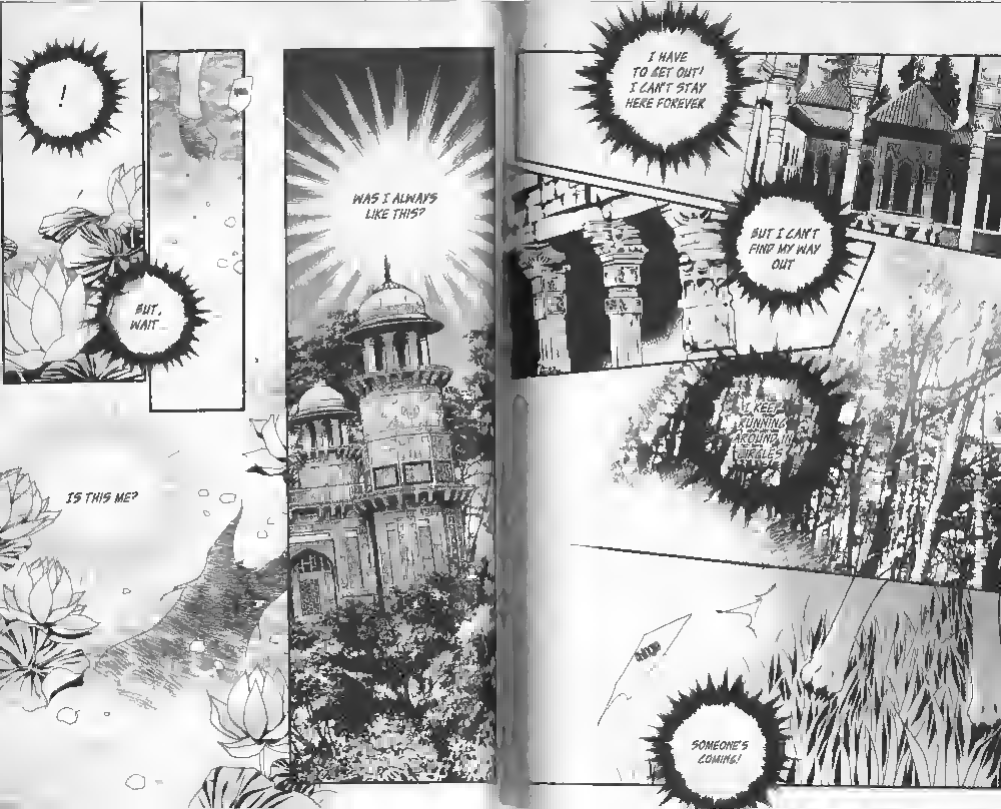
HA HA HA, YOU REALLY THINK SO?

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD YET WHAT I DID TO YULAN.
EVEN IF HE DISCOVERS THE TRUTH HE'LL KNOW THAT HE IS STILL TO BLAME
THE CHOICE WAS ULTIMATELY HIS..
I'LL RESERVE THIS STORY FOR WHEN YOU DECIDE TO BE MORE OBEDIENT LITTLE BROTHER
HO I'VE ANGED MY MIND
AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT INEZ I'M SURE SHE'S THOROUGHLY ENJOYING MY GIFT

WHILE I WAS AT IT, I ADDED A BIT MORE SPICE TO HER DREAM.
AFTER ALL...
...ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE IN THE NEVERLAND THAT DREAMS CREATE.
HAAAH
HAAAH
HAAAH
HAAAH
HAAAH
I CAN'T RUN ANYMORE! MY HEART IS ABOUT TO BURST
BUT WHY AM I RUNNING IN THE FIRST PLACE?

WHERE AM I?!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT I WAS BEING CHASED!
THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL ME
SO I DASHED AWAY!

BUT THIS PLACE FEELS SAFE SOMEHOW.
I THINK THEY'VE GIVEN UP THE CHASE, TOO.
WHAT A RELIEF!
CRUSH
...THERE'S NO NEED TO BE AFRAID, LITTLE ONE.
WHO'S THERE? WHERE'D YOU COME FROM? DON'T COME NEAR ME!
HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO GET IN HERE?
DON'T WORRY. IN THIS PLACE EVERY LIFE IS SACRED AND PROTECTED
STRANGE. THE MOMENT HE TOUCHED ME, I FELT AT EASE
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...
...I DIDN'T FEEL FEAR AT THE TOUCH OF A HUMAN BEING


!
BUT, WAIT...
WAS I ALWAYS LIKE THIS?
IS THIS ME?
I HAVE TO GET OUT! I CAN'T STAY HERE FOREVER
BUT I CAN'T FIND MY WAY OUT
I KEEP RUNNING AROUND IN CIRCLES!
SHH
SOMEONE'S COMING!

HE'S FOUND ME!

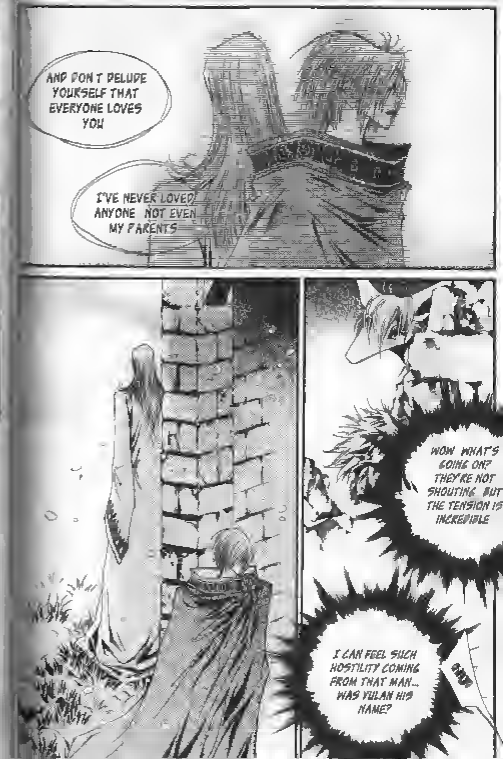
EVEN IF YOU SEARCH ENDLESSLY FOR THE WAY OUT YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND IT NOW
THE TIME ISN'T RIGHT YOU'LL ONLY WEAR YOURSELF OUT
EH?
HOW DID HE KNOW THAT THIS FRUIT IS ALL I EAT?
I WAS STARVING BECAUSE I COULDN'T FIND ANY ANYWHERE AROUND THIS PLACE
COULD IT BE A COINCIDENCE?
WHEN YOU SEE THE CRESCENT MOON IN THE SKY
...GO WEST TO THE FIELDS THERE YOU'LL FIND A WAY OUT

IT IT'S ON THE HALF "LOON" MOON...
CALL HAVEL A WATERMELON A MONTH!
BUT BORING
WELL IT IS QUIET AND COMFORTING HERE...
WHO'S THAT?

YULAN, I KNOW YOU HATE ME
I ALSO KNOW...THAT YOU LOVE ME JUST AS MUCH.

I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO DISAPPOINT YOU.
WERE I TO GRANT YOUR WISH...I WOULD LOSE YOU ENTIRELY
I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR YOU ADMIT TO SUCH HUMAN FEELINGS
BUT I'D RATHER THAT YOU WERE HONEST AND DISPENSED WITH THESE PATHETIC EXCUSES
YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF PERSON TO DO THINGS FOR THE SAKE OF ONE INDIVIDUAL
YOU'RE MAKING EXCUSES FOR GREEDY HUMAN HEARTS SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU BELONG TO THE HUMAN RACE TOO

LOOK INTO MY EYES AND TELL ME THAT LIE AGAIN.
TELL ME THAT YOU'VE MADE THIS CHOICE BECAUSE OF ME.
IF YOU DO, YOU'RE LYING, BECAUSE YOU KNOW...
...WHAT I TRULY DESIRE.


AND DON'T DELUDE YOURSELF THAT EVERYONE LOVES YOU
I'VE NEVER LOVED ANYONE NOT EVEN MY PARENTS
WOW WHAT'S GOING ON? THEY'RE NOT SHOUTING BUT THE TENSION IS INCREDIBLE
I CAN FEEL SUCH HOSTILITY COMING FROM THAT MAN... WAS YULAN HIS NAME?
GRIP

!
...I FEEL SOMETHING MUCH MORE COMPLICATED...
OH? IT'S NOT VENGEANCE HE FEELS ANY-MORE
NOW...
AND THIS ONE! I DON'T KNOW WHY... BUT I WANT TO COMFORT HIM
WILL YOU PROMISE ME ONE THING?

THAT YOU WON'T ..
..HATE HIM
WHAT?
I KNOW YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM SAYING NOW, BUT ONE DAY YOU WILL
I CAN'T TELL YOU TO BE HIS FRIEND, BUT I HOPE YOU WILL AT LEAST COMPREHEND THE DEPTH OF HIS SORROW.
NO ONE COULD BE... AS WOUNDED AND LONELY AS HE IS.
IT'S TIME TO GO BACK
TIME FLOWS MUCH MORE QUICKLY IN HERE THAN IT DOES OUTSIDE.
AMAZING IT'S THE CRESCENT MOON ALREADY!

WHAT A STRANGE PLACE...
...AND A STRANGE PERSON...
...BUT I WANT TO MEET H M AGAIN...
WILL I EVER HAVE THE CHANCE...?
HEY!
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
WOOO...
HEY!
IF YOU'RE AWAKE, OPEN YOUR EYES REALLY WIDE!
KYREITE?
THAT'S RIGHT. OPEN THOSE EYES I GUESS AT LEAS YOU DIDN'T HURT YOUR HEA
WHAT?
I SAID YOUR HEAD S HARDER THAN IT LOOKS

CONSIDERING THAT YOU FELL OFF A CLIFF AND ALL!
CLIFF?

WHA.. WHAT'S WRONG?
AFTERSHOCK? DELAYED STRESS EFFECT?
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?!

LOOK, ROASTED TO PERFECTION!
YOU KNOW THAT EVERYTHING TASTES BETTER IN THE ELFIN LANDS THAN ANYWHERE ELSE, RIGHT?
CRUNCHY ON THE OUTSIDE, SOFT AND CHEWY ON THE INSIDE. STOP CRYING AND EAT THIS
YOU LOOK LIKE THIS FISH WITH YOUR EYES ALL PUFFY. HURRY UP! MY ARM HURTS
IT'S GOOD

BWaaah
BWaaah
BWaaah
HEY, HEY!
IF I DON'T CRY IT OUT... I MIGHT JUST GO CRAZY

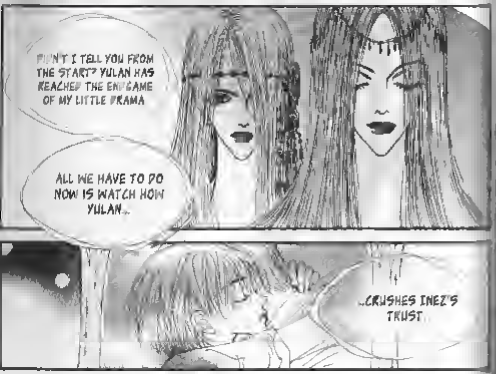
MAYBE THESE TEARS CAN WASH AWAY THE SIGHT...
...OF YULAN'S COLD EYES...
...AS HE TURNED AWAY.
I DON'T CARE IF I CRY UNTIL THERE'S NO MORE WATER LEFT IN MY BODY
SOB
IF ONLY I COULD ERASE THAT MEMORY

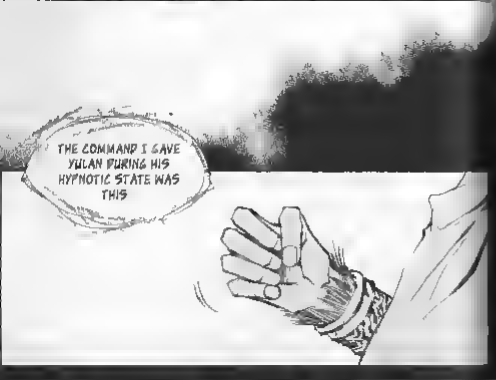
YULAN...IT HURTS
MY ARMS HURT...
I CAN'T HOLD ON... ANY LONGER...

WOW...DON'T YOU THINK IT'S REALLY AMAZING? I FELL FROM SUCH A HIGH CLIFF AND I'M FINE.
NOT A SCRATCH ANYWHERE. SO DON'T WORRY YULAN.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT REALLY HAPPENED

I...REFUSE TO BELIEVE IT YULAN WOULD NEVER...
...TURN HIS BACK ON ME

HA HA HA!
NOW YOU'VE SEEN IT WITH YOUR OWN EYES. THIS IS WHAT SHE TRULY BELIEVES
EVEN IF I CREATE A MORE EXTREME SCENARIO, SHE WON'T WAVER.
STILL, THIS LITTLE DREAM WILL CREATE CONFUSION IN INEZ
SHE WILL BEGIN TO WONDER WHERE HER BLIND FAITH IN YULAN COMES FROM
THAT WILL BE THE BEGINNING OF HER AWAKENING


DIDN'T I TELL YOU FROM THE START? YULAN HAS REACHED THE END GAME OF MY LITTLE DRAMA.
ALL WE HAVE TO DO NOW IS WATCH HOW YULAN...
...CRUSHES INEZ'S TRUST.


THE COMMAND I GAVE YULAN DURING HIS HYPNOTIC STATE WAS THIS

YULAN, FOLLOW YOUR HEART. DO WHAT YOU TRULY DESIRE.

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S FASCINATING? WE'LL WATCH HER STRUGGLE AGAINST THE REALITY...
THAT THE ONE SHE TRUSTS THE MOST WANTS TO KILL HER
DIDN'T I TELL YOU ZEYER... THAT YULAN CANNOT BLAME ME?
HE KNOWS BETTER THAN ANYONE THAT THE ONE TO BLAME IS... HIMSELF
HE MUST BLAME HIS OWN DIVIDED HEART, TORN AS IT IS BETWEEN LOVE AND THE INSTINCT TO REJECT THAT LOVE

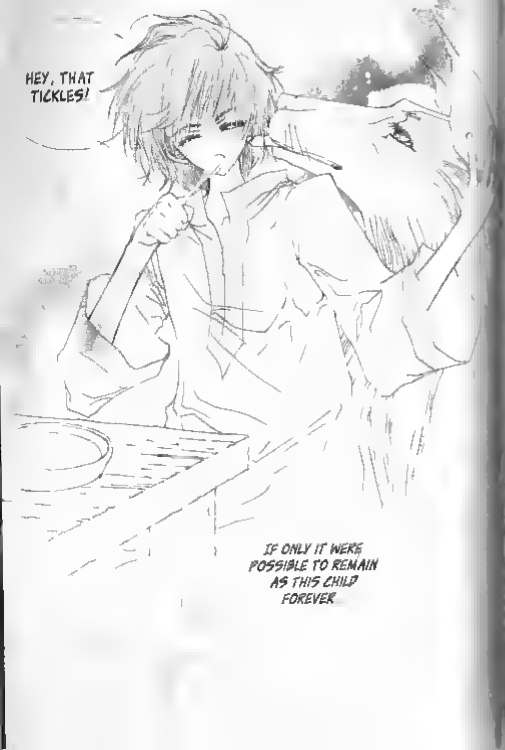
EPISODE 6
THE AWAKENING AND THE BROKEN SCALE

YOU'RE AWAKE
YOU MUST BE HUNGRY. THE SOUP WILL BE READY IN JUST A MINUTE

...WHAT A PEACEFUL PLACE
I LIKE IT
I PUT A LOT OF MILK IN IT. VERY SOOTHING

SHE FEELS HAPPY.
I'M GLAD THAT THIS CHILD SEEMS PLEASED WITH THIS LIFE...
KAAGER... THAT IS YOUR NAME, NO?
DELAY THE TIME OF HER AWAKENING
UNTIL THE MOMENT OF FINAL DECISION COMES LET ME REMAIN AS THIS CHILD
SOON THE EMPEROR WILL CALL YOU.
SNOW HAS BEGUN TO FALL.
GO TO THE EMPEROR AND SHOW HIM THIS CHILD AS SHE IS. EVEN IF IT MAKES HIM ANXIOUS HE TOO MUST MAKE HIS CHOICE.

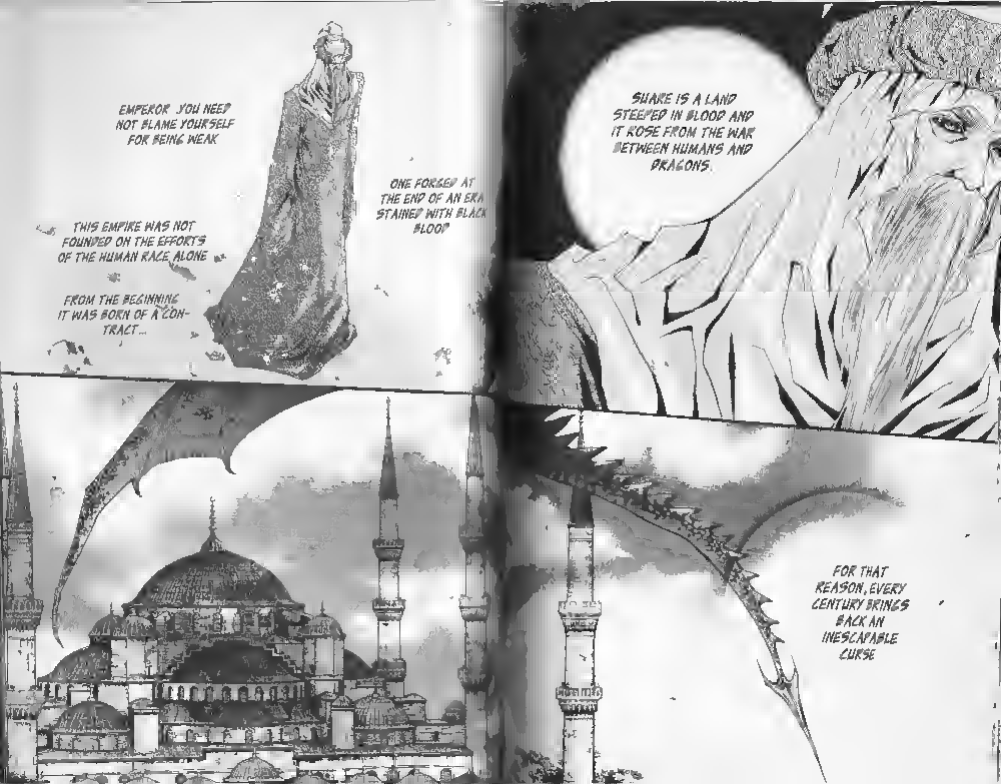
IF ONLY IT WERE POSSIBLE..
...TO REMAIN AS THIS CHILD...
...FOREVER
ZOE, STOP THAT...
SLURP
SLURP
I'M UP, OKAY?
WOW, THE SOUP SMELLS GREAT!
GRANDPA YOU'RE THE BEST HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS CRAVING YOUR MILK SOUP?
YUMMY!
I HEAR YOU ZOE BUT IT'S TOO HOT FOR YOU RIGHT NOW


HEY, THAT TICKLES!
IF ONLY IT WERE POSSIBLE TO REMAIN AS THIS CHILD FOREVER...

LORD KAAGER. HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR REGRETS THAT HE CANNOT GRANT YOU AN AUDIENCE TODAY
I'LL REQUEST AN AUDIENCE AGAIN TOMORROW
IT'S ALREADY BEEN A WEEK SINCE HIS MAJESTY GRANTED AN AUDIENCE TO LORD KAAGER
HIS MAJESTY WON'T SEE HIS OTHER MINISTERS EITHER
I'M FRIGHTENED! IT'S BEEN SNOWING FOR A MONTH ALREADY. WHAT HAPPENS IF THE WHOLE COUNTRY FREEZES OVER?

BRING MORE BLANKETS!
PUT MORE LOGS ON THE FIRE!
THE COLD IS DRIVING ME CRAZY!
I FEEL THE CHILL DOWN TO MY BONES
PWAH HA HA! WHAT A PITIFUL FIGURE I AM
WHO WILL CALL ME THE GLORIOUS HEAD OF THE EMPIRE NOW?
DOES THIS COUNTRY STILL BELONG TO ME...?
OR DOES THIS COUNTRY TRULY BELONG TO THE CLAN OF SUARE?
WITHOUT THE POWER OF THE DRAGON, I AM NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL.
EMPEROR, YES, BUT IN NAME ONLY..
SUARE, HOW WEAK YOU ARE!
YOU'RE A PARASITE, WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO DEPEND ON THE POWER OF THE DRAGON

EMPEROR OF ALL SUARE, AND ALL I CAN DO IS SHIVER IN A CORNER OF MY PALACE AND PRAY FOR THE RESURRECTION OF THE DRAGON'S POWERS
I CANNOT STOP A SINGLE SNOWFLAKE FROM FALLING
HOW ABSURD!
THE FUTURE OF THIS ANCIENT EMPIRE REST'S NOT IN MY HANDS BUT IN THOSE OF A FRAIL LITTLE GIRL
SUARE ARE YOU REALLY THE MOST MAGNIFICENT EMPIRE OF THE HUMAN RACE?!


EMPEROR YOU NEED NOT BLAME YOURSELF FOR BEING WEAK
THIS EMPIRE WAS NOT FOUNDED ON THE EFFORTS OF THE HUMAN RACE ALONE
FROM THE BEGINNING IT WAS BORN OF A CONTRACT...
ONE FORGED AT THE END OF AN ERA STAINED WITH BLACK BLOOD
SHARE IS A LAND STEEPED IN BLOOD AND IT ROSE FROM THE WAR BETWEEN HUMANS AND DRAGONS.
FOR THAT REASON, EVERY CENTURY BRINGS BACK AN INESCAPABLE CURSE

DURING THAT FATED TIME, THE EMPEROR BECOMES NOTHING BUT A FIGUREHEAD.
WE HUMANS CANNOT INTERFERE IN THE KARMA ABOUT TO UNFOLD.
EXCEPT FOR ONE...
JUST ONE PERSON...
THE ONE BORN WITH THE CHOICE...

TO GET TO THE SECOND PORTAL WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PASS THROUGH HERE
THIS IS THE REGION OF THE ELFIN LANDS CALLED "THE FELLS OF MISERY."
"FELLS OF MISERY"?
THE ELVES WHO LIVE HERE BELONG TO THE LOWEST CASTE IN THEIR SOCIETY
STRICTLY SPEAKING, THEY ARE HALF-ELVES THEY HAVE A LIMITED LIFESPAN AND LITTLE ELFIN ABILITY
WHOEVER NAMED THIS PLACE "FELLS OF MISERY" KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING. LOOK AT THE FACES ON THESE FOLKS.
ISN'T IT AMAZING?
WHAT IS?
THE HIGH AND MIGHTY ELVES ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM HUMANS WHEN IT COMES TO INFLICTING PAIN ON ONE ANOTHER
I FEEL LIKE I'M IN A PARALLEL KINGDOM
WOW, IT'S SO PLUSH!

PLUSH? ALL WE HAVE IS ONE THIN BLANKET AND A MANGY MATTRESS
TO BE HONEST I ASSUMED ALL OF ELF SOCIETY WAS AS LUXURIOUS AS WHAT WE SAW IN EAST GARDEN
A LAND OF FRUITS THAT NEVER ROT AND MYSTERIOUS RICHES ALL AROUND
SO? I HAVEN'T SLEPT IN A BED IN AGES, LET ALONE UNDER A ROOF
THE LODGINGS DON'T BEGIN TO COMPARE TO WHAT WE HAD IN EAST GARDEN BUT THEY'LL KEEP THE BAD WEATHER OUT
BUT HERE, LIKE YOU SAID, IT'S VERY MUCH LIKE HUMAN SOCIETY
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I FIND IT COMFORTING
WHAT A BUNCH OF BULL. WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS JUST ANOTHER VERSION OF "MISERY LOVES COMPANY."
SO YOU'RE ACTUALLY GLAD THAT THERE'S ANOTHER PLACE IN THE WORLD WHERE PEOPLE SUFFER PAIN AND DISCRIMINATION
YOU'RE HAPPY THAT ELF SOCIETY IS NOT ALL GLAMOUR AND PERPETUAL JOY
HOW IS THAT DIFFERENT FROM NOT WANTING OTHERS TO HAVE SOMETHING JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE IT?
I...I DIDN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY
MAYBE YULAN THINKS THE SAME WAY YOU DO. WHY DON'T YOU GO TALK TO HIM?
I DON'T THINK I WANT TO SHARE THIS ROOM WITH YOU ANYMORE
KYRETTE!

I WASN'T THINKING...I WAS JUST GLAD TO BE SOMEWHERE THAT FELT FAMILIAR.
I DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT THE IMPLICATIONS WERE.
MONG!
MONG. YOU UNDERSTAND ME, RIGHT? ALTHOUGH I CAN'T SAY KYRETTE WAS COMPLETELY WRONG.
WHEN WE SEE HIM AGAIN, I'LL EXPLAIN WHAT I MEANT.
THERE SHOULDN'T BE A "FELLS OF MISERY" IN OUR WORLD EITHER

SHOOT. I OVERREACTED WHEN I SHOULD BE TRYING TO GET THE KID TO LIKE ME...TO LET HIS GUARD DOWN.
IT WASN'T A FATAL MISTAKE...BUT I SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON.
WAS IT MY OWN INSECURITY...
THAT MADE ME SNAP LIKE THAT...
...EVEN WHEN I KNEW THE KID DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM?
SNAP

KYRETTE?
REALLY IT WAS JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING
TSK
MAY I OFFER YOU ONE MORE? THE BEER HERE TASTES HARSH...
...BUT IT CHASES AWAY THIRST LIKE NOTHING ELSE
LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF AGAIN. THIS TIME, FORMALLY
I AM NEO, AT YOUR SERVICE
I WAS AFRAID THAT YOU WOULD BE A KID
I DON'T NEED ANYONE TO SHADOW ME.
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE PLANNING YOU CAN FORGET IT

I WANT TO USE YOU IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, OUT IN THE OPEN
I UNDER-STAND
THAT'S WHY I ALREADY MADE CONTACT
I HAD A GOOD OPPORTUNITY DURING THE CLIFF INCIDENT
THE CLIFF INCI DENT? WHAT ARE YOU TALK ING ABOUT?
THANK YOU SO MUCH YULAN MONE WAS GETTING HUNGRY AND I WAS WORRIED
I COULDN'T FIND ANY FRESH FRUIT AROUND
DID YOU HAVE TO GO FAR FOR THESE?
YULAN...HE'S GROWN EVEN MORE SILENT SINCE THAT STRANGE INCI-DENT.

SUCH AN UNCOMFORTABLE SILENCE
I HATE IT!
WAIT A MINUTE I'VE SEEN THIS FRUIT BEFORE
THAT'S RIGHT IT WAS IN MY DREAM I WAS SOME SORT OF ANIMAL AND I ONLY ATE THESE
MEANINGLESS CHATTER THAT I HOPED WOULD BREAK THE SILENCE BETWEEN YULAN AND ME ONLY MADE HIS JAW CLENCH TIGHTER
I WAS A CROSS BETWEEN A FOX AND A FAWN MY FUR WAS COMPLETELY WHITE
BOOM

SHE FELL OFF A CLIFF?
YES, MY LORD I SAW IT FROM THE VERY BEGINNING
YULAN WALKED AWAY WHEN INEZ WAS CRYING OUT FOR HELP
BUT WHAT HAPPENED AFTERWARD WAS EVEN MORE INCREDIBLE
INEZ'S BODY WAS SURROUNDED BY A SOFT GLOW AS SHE FELL...

...AND SHE DRIFTED DOWN, LIGHT AS A FEATHER, AND WOKE UP WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A SCRATCH.
IT MUST BE THE POWER OF THE DRAGON ESSENCE SHE CARRIES IN THAT PENDANT.
AS I SUSPECTED... THEY ARE CONNECTED AT SOME DEEP LEVEL. THAT'S PROBABLY THE REASON WHY I COULDN'T TAKE THE PENDANT AWAY FROM HER.
THE QUESTION IS HOW DEEP AND IN WHAT SPECIFIC WAY?
IF TWO ENTITIES THAT ARE COMPLETELY MERGED ARE SEPARATED, IT MAKES SENSE THAT ONE OF THE TWO WOULD DISAPPEAR.
LIKE THE ELF-SWORD AND ME...
I GUESS THIS MEANS INEZ MUST DIE

YES, TO PUT IT BLUNTLY
I YOU WERE ALWAYS ..
LIKE THIS

BUT MY REACTION MIGHT STILL BE TO LET YOU FALL OFF THE CLIFF
YET EVEN IF I DID, YOU WOULD FORGIVE ME AGAIN...BECAUSE THAT IS YOUR WAY
AND I HAVE NO GRATITUDE TO GIVE YOU. YOU WERE THE ONE WHO HARNESSED ME TO THIS FATE/ IN THE FIRST PLACE
BUT THERE IS ONE THING I AM CURIOUS ABOUT
WHY DID YOU TAKE THIS FORM?
READING YOUR THOUGHTS...HAS NEVER BEEN MORE DIFFICULT

YOUR AWAKENING...
...HAS ALREADY BEGUN. I KNOW THAT BECAUSE THE IMAGE ASSOCIATED WITH HIM HAS ENTERED MY DREAMS.
THOUGH IT'S STRANGE THAT SHE MISTAKES HIM FOR HERSELF. BUT MAYBE THAT'S JUST ANOTHER ONE OF LILITH'S TRICKS.
IF... IF YOU WANT MY HEART...
AWAKEN THOSE MEMORIES YOU MADE WITH ME...
ZEYER.
...BEFORE REMEMBERING HIM.

OH!
OOPS, I'M SORRY
I DIDN'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT.
I FIGURED A THIN BLANKET WOULD BE BETTER THAN NOTHING.. AFTER ALL
IT'S GETTING QUITE COLD OUTSIDE, YOU SEE.

GET OUT.
YOU MEAN GO BACK OUT INTO THAT COLD?
HOW HEARTLESS OF YOU. AFTER ALL WE ARE FELLOW TRAVELERS AREN'T WE?
WHY DO YOU THINK I'M LETTING YOU REMAIN AROUND INEZ?

I DON'T THINK THAT YOU'RE FOOLING US BOTH. I'M NOT STUPID ENOUGH TO THINK THAT YOUR KINDNESS TOWARD INEZ IS GENUINE.
YOU HAVE AN OBJECTIVE AND IT'S IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU USE YOUR OWN BODY AS A SHIELD TO PROTECT HER FROM DANGER
BUT I'M LEAVING YOU ALONE BECAUSE THERE'S ZERO CHANCE THAT YOUR OBJECTIVE WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED
FOR THAT REASON, I WON'T CONCERN MYSELF WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE EITHER
FOR YOUR OWN GOOD I'D ADVISE YOU NOT TO DO ANYTHING STUPID. THE POWER IN QUESTION IS NOT THE KIND THAT A MERE MORTAL CAN HOPE TO WIELD
IT WON'T COME TO YOU AS EASILY AS THAT ELF-SWORD YOU SEEM TO COMMAND

IF I WERE YOU, I'D GO HOME RATHER THAN WASTE MY TIME ON AN ARDUOUS AND FRUITLESS JOURNEY.
WHAT AN INTERESTING THEORY!
YOU MAKE ME OUT TO BE AN ARROGANT SCHEMER
BUT FOR ALL MY MACHINATIONS, I'M NOT IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO TAKE UP ANY SPACE IN THAT PRECIOUS HEAD OF YOURS IS THAT IT?
WELL THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ADVICE. BUT I THINK I'LL IGNORE IT
I CAN'T GIVE UP AND STILL KEEP MY PRIDE AFTER BEING INSULTED LIKE THAT NOW, CAN I?
YOU SAY THAT YOU'LL JUST IGNORE ME
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A CHALLENGE, YULAN.

CALL ME AN OPTIMIST BUT I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THERE IS ANYTHING IMPOSSIBLE IN THIS WORLD
WHEN MY DAY COMES, I WONDER WHETHER YOU'LL CONTINUE TO BE SO GENEROUSLY ARROGANT
SO, HE HAD ME FIGURED OUT FROM THE BEGINNING!
AND HE STILL LET ME NEAR INEZ
DOES THAT MEAN HE WASN'T BLUFFING JUST NOW?
IS WHAT I'M SO DESPERATELY SEEKING JUST AN ENTICING MIRAGE?

DOES THE DRAGON'S POWER BELONG ONLY TO THE CHOSEN ONE?
GOOD MORNING!
I FEEL GREAT! THE BED MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE!
YULAN? DIDN'T YOU SLEEP?
HUH?
사라

THUMP
THUMP

GULP!
GULP!
YOU'LL CHOKE IF YOU DON'T SLOW DOWN
WHY WAS I SO STARTLED THIS MORNING?

AFTER ALL, YULAN'S BEAUTY MESMERIZED ME FROM THE FIRST TIME I SAW HIM...
HE'S SO MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY WOMAN
HIS BEAUTY IS SO INTENSE THAT IT SEEMS ALMOST UNEARTHLY
AT THE IMPERIAL PALACE
WHEN YULAN LOOKED UP AT ME AND SMILED...

...I THOUGHT MY HEART WOULD STOP. I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THE EMPEROR.
HIS SMILE...
...HYPNOTIZED ME
I DIDN'T THINK I'D EVER SEE ANYTHING SO BEAUTIFUL AGAIN
DRINK THIS
THE BREAD HERE IS NOT VERY HIGH QUALITY. YOU'LL CHOKE.
EVERY MOVEMENT

HIS EVERY WORD...
MATTERS SO MUCH TO ME!
WHEN DID I START...
IF YOU'RE DONE, LET'S GO.
...FEELING THIS WAY?

YULAN!
WAIT UP!
EXCUS ME.

BBBBBBM
GGGGGGG
AAAAAA

JEAN!
JEAN!
WH-WHAT DID YOU DO? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY SISTER?
YOU...YOU KILLED HER
MURDERER!
MURDERER!!

MURDERER!

THE SEAL...
...IS BREAKING.
PERHAPS IT WAS TOO MUCH TO ASK THAT POSSESSING THE DRAGON'S HEART'S BLOOD WOULD DELAY THE TIME OF AWAKENING.
LIKE TRYING TO DAM A RIVER WITH A SINGLE STICK.

THE ONE KNEW THAT ONLY TOO WELL.
WHY THEN DID HE ASK ME TO WAIT?
DELAY...THE TIME OF MY AWAKENING.
LIKE THIS CRYSTAL, THE SEAL THAT I SET IN PLACE WILL BREAK, BIT BY BIT, EVERY TIME THE ESSENCE BECOMES ACTIVE.
SOONER OR LATER, IT WILL SHATTER COMPLETELY.
WHY DID THE ONE WISH TO REMAIN AS INEZ UNTIL THE TIME OF THE ULTIMATE CHOICE?

KNOWING ALL THE WHILE THAT TAKING THE JOURNEY IN AN UNAWAKENED STATE CREATES SEVERE CONFUSION FOR INEZ!
WHAT COULD BE THE REASON?
INEZ...
HOW ARE YOU FARING? FOR WHILE YOU BEAR THE ESSENCE I CANNOT SENSE YOU
BUT I BELIEVE IN YOU
I KNOW YOU'LL BE STRONG.
INEZ...
THIS FOREST IS PEACEFUL ENOUGH, EVEN THOUGH WE ARE STILL WITHIN THE DELLS OF MISERY

ARE PEOPLE HERE SO SAD...
...THAT THEY WOULD CALL THIS BOUNTIFUL LAND THE WELLS OF MISERY?
NO MATTER HOW IT IS DIVIDED UP AND NAMED ..
THE SOIL I HOLD IN MY HAND WON'T CHANGE
BUT PEOPLE DON'T STOP TRYING TO FIX IT TO MAKE THE GROUND MORE PROFITABLE SOMEHOW
IN ORDER TO GAIN THE POWER TO CHANGE EARTH, CHANGE THE LAND
GRANDFATHER USED TO SAY THAT ANCIENT PEOPLE TURNED TO MAGIC

PEOPLE KNOW THAT. BUT THEY TRY TO BLIND THEMSELVES TO THE TRUTH
HE TOLD ME THAT THIS PENDANT WAS NO ORDINARY ACCESSORY
BUT THEY ARE NOT HAPPY WITH JUST CHANGING IT.
THEY KEEP MESSING WITH IT UNTIL THE LAND ITSELF GETS USED UP
BUT I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT UNTIL TODAY

I SUSPECTED THAT IT MIGHT BE POWERFUL. BUT I NEVER THOUGHT THAT IT COULD KILL.
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO ASK ME TO CONTINUE THIS JOURNEY...
...WITH THIS DEADLY THING AROUND MY NECK?
I NEVER IMAGINED THAT
AS ALL THAT ONE LITT
TOUCH AND IT REDUCE
THE THIEF TO ASHES.
AT ANY RATE, I COMMEND YOU ON YOUR WORK TODAY. NOW I KNOW WHY THEY SENT YOU TO ME.

YOUR POWER TO TRANSFORM WILL COME IN VERY HANDY DURING THIS ENTIRE OPERATION
WE'RE BACK TO SQUARE ONE.
...BUT WE WON'T GIVE UP THAT EASILY
LORD KYRETTE, THERE IS BOUND TO BE A WEAK POINT SOMEWHERE. THE DRAGON'S POWER CANNOT BE INVINCIBLE IN IT'S PRESENT ESSENCE FORM.

YOU'RE RIGHT. THE BEST WAY TO PROCEED IS TO LOCATE THAT WEAK POINT
I BELIEVE THAT THE KEY IS THE BEARER OF THE ESSENCE AND NOT THE ESSENCE ITSELF.
NOT EVERYONE CAN WEAR THAT KIND OF POWER AROUND SUCH A FRAGILE NECK

TO BE CONTINUED IN ARCANA VOLUME

THE QUEST CONTINUES IN

VOLUME 5

AS THE SHOW CONTINUES TO FALL UPON THE KINGDOM OF YOUNG INEZ'S HOMELAND, THE SITUATION BECOMES INCREASINGLY DIRE BY THE DAY. THE BEING WHO CAN BRING PEACE AND STABILITY TO THE LAND IS "THE ONE" WHO RESIDES WITHIN THE CORPOREAL FORM OF INEZ. BUT HOW WISE KAAGER STRUGGLES WITH THE WEIGHT OF THE DECISION HE MUST MAKE, AND THE CONSEQUENCES THAT MAY RESULT ONCE THE SAVIOR IS RETURNED TO THE LAND...

THERE'S INTRIGUE AND ADVENTURE IN EVERY PAGE OF THE NEXT VOLUME OF ARCANA!